Introduction
A/Commr. John Ferguson and C/Supt. Peter Tewfik will be the Gold Commander during this event. We will be using the National Decision Model and maintaining a log for audit purposes, as will Silver Command.

Overview
We are dealing with a global health pandemic which is affecting Albertans, and Canadians on an unprecedented scale. I will ensure all persons are dealt with in an ethical manner in line with the RCMP Mission, Vision and Values. I am aware there may be emotional issues for employees, citizens and communities.

Summary
Over the course of January 29th there are several protests being planned. Social media suggests the following convoys may occur. Not enough information was known at time of publication to assess the viability of the information. The assessment is subject to change as more information is gathered.

Information and Intelligence
What we know:

Border Events 2022-01-29 (Saturday)

- Coutts: Participants will meet at Flying J (1005 43 St S, Lethbridge AB) at 0500hrs before proceeding to Coutts Border Crossing (Highway 4 South, Coutts AB). Coutts starting at 1000hrs at the port of entry (POE) between Coutts, AB, Canada and the Sweet Grass, Montana, United States.

- Carway and Del Bonita: Participants will meet at the Shell Station in Fort MacLeod at 0800. They will travel towards Carway. They will split convoy with some attending Carway and the others Del Bonita border crossings.

o Potentially affected detachments: Raymond and Milk River

Vehicle Convoys destined for the Alberta Legislature in Edmonton 2022-01-29

A number of convoys of both private vehicles and heavy vehicles are planned for 2022-01-29. The final destination of these convoys is the Alberta Legislature in Edmonton.

- Between 7 and 10 convoys, both large vehicle and personal vehicle, are destined for the Alberta Legislature on 2022-01-29.

o Detachments: Athabasca, Airdrie, Barrhead, Blackfalds, Didsbury, Innisfail, Leduc, Morinville, Okotoks, Olds, Parkland, Ponoka, Red Deer, Westlock, Wetaskiwin

o Potentially affected detachments: Boyle, Fort Saskatchewan, Kitscoty, Lloydminster, Redwater, Strathcona, Tofield, Vegreville, Vermilion, Wood Buffalo

- Alberta Legislature Slow Roll Convoy Aldersyde to Edmonton via QE 2 Participants will depart Aldersyde, AB at 0700hrs and travel north along Hwy 2. Unknown attendance numbers. The convoy is intended to grow as it continues north picking up members at the following locations and times can be found in original OPEN SOURCE INTELLIGENCE REPORT

o Detachments: Okotoks, Airdrie, Didsbury, Olds, Innisfail, Blackfalds, Red Deer, Ponoka, Wetaskiwin, Leduc

Localized rallies in support of the Trucker Convoy

There are events planned on 2022-01-29 in Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray, Red Deer and Edmonton.

o Detachment(s): Grande Prairie, Red Deer, Wood Buffalo

What do we need:

Intelligence from social media on when and where these protests may be occurring, preferably with as much advance notice as possible, but this may not be possible.

How many locations are anticipated to be affected? What will be the impact of road closures in various areas if traffic cannot move. Are there contingencies for emergency personnel to respond in the event of an emergency during the closure?

Identify Silver and Bronze Commanders for the districts and support services.

How will we get it:

There will be one (1) Divisional Gold Commanders and one Divisional (1) Silver Commander and Bronze commanders designated for WAD, CAD, SAD, DEOC, traffic, Federal Policing, Comms, OCC, CIP, and Intelligence. They will delegate sub-bronze as required to support their command structure.

Bronze Commanders (and/or alternate) will conduct ongoing risk assessments and confirm number of RCMP resources required. Bronze Command is to manage their resources to maintain efficiency and ensure primacy of operations are met

DEOC has been activated to s.37

CROPS has an established liaison with the Provincial Government (DLE) and there is a reviewer on call to do Provincial reporting

Threat/Risk

Political:

Potential dissatisfaction with GoC and GoA for actions taken to manage the COVID-19 health emergency

There are protests occurring in relation to Federal and Provincial government vaccine requirements and health measures.

Economical:

Support GoA to maintain essential business continuity for local business community

Social:

Potential threat is against maintaining confidence in police (local and organizationally)

To maintain community cohesion

Technological:

Managing use of existing infrastructure to meet demands

Environmental:

Legal:

Ensure we are on solid footing for any police actions

Protecting life and property are the guiding principles

Organizational:

That we have the ability to manage scale, with specific emphasis on surge capacity

Ability to maintain business as usual in affected areas

Ability to sustain protracted operations if required

Ability to manage competing interests/pressures

Strategic Threats:

Size and scope on operations

Impact on first responders – law enforcement

Threat from non-compliance by affected groups

Powers and Policy

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Criminal Code of Canada

Critical Infrastructure Defense Act

Food and Drugs Act

Public Health Act of Canada

Public Health Act of Alberta

Emergency Management

Emergencies Act

National Defence Act

Civil Power

Canada Transportation Act

Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act

Railway Safety Act

International Bridges and Tunnels Act

Motor Vehicle Transport Act

Aeronautics Act

Canada Shipping Act

Canada Labour Code

Department of Employment and Social Development Act

Employment Insurance Act

Financial Administration Act

Access to Information Act

Immigration and Refugee Protection Act

Customs Act

Broadcasting Act

Quarantine Act

Within a legal framework, the police response will be measured and proportionate to achieve objectives. The primary objectives will be allowing for peaceful and lawful protest and preserving life and property. Preservation of life will take primacy of police response with property damage being a lesser response but will be considered within the response plan.

The preservation of access and egress routes for emergency responders will be prioritized to ensure the safety of participants, responding agency personnel, general public and residents. Police resources will be deployed with a planned escalation plan to ensure this is maintained.

Commerce and public travel will be maintained where possible, utilizing non use of force tactics and strategies. This restriction will be reassessed in the event the situation is protracted.

Options and Contingencies

There is a need for police to be involved in this to ensure the public peace and public safety

Threats

Impact on existing local and out-of-area RCMP members required to respond to this event

Impact on RCMP service delivery in the affected areas or areas from which resources need to be drawn

Impact on Business as usual for affected RCMP areas of operation.

Impact for local businesses

There may be an impact to the community norms if traffic is halted or unable to move and this may result in a disruption to the economy as well as putting additional pressures on families and local communities.

Impacts on public freedoms

It is critical that the RCMP be prepared to implement measures to support people being able to move unimpeded and for emergency vehicles to be able to respond to public emergencies that may develop.

Mitigate

Accept

Tolerate mild disruptions, which will attempt to be mitigated

Transfer

We may be able to use partners like Commercial Vehicle Enforcement to take the lead in some areas to aid in moving commercial vehicles.

Resourcing

Resources are being brought in on overtime to support the operations from Saturday the 29th and Sunday the 30th, 2022.

Action and Review

Strategy

It is essential that the RCMP in Alberta continue to provide essential public safety services and maintain public order.

Within a legal framework, the police response will be measured and proportionate to achieve objectives. The primary objectives will be allowing for peaceful and lawful protest and preserving life and property. Preservation of life will take primacy of police response with property damage being a lesser response but will be considered within the response plan.

The preservation of access and egress routes for emergency responders will be prioritized to ensure the safety of participants, responding agency personnel, general public and residents. Police resources will be deployed with a planned escalation plan to ensure this is maintained.

The RCMP will take an “firm but fair” approach with respect to enforcement measures as a result of significant disruption or blockades. The RCMP approach in Alberta will be collaborative and engaging in keeping with our conventional style. That said we will prefer charges over warnings even if those charges follow the event itself. This approach will assist with social cohesion and prevent a breakdown of law and order.

The Alberta RCMP will monitor the protest status and collect, organize, and integrate related information to update operations as necessary.

Commerce and public travel will be maintained where possible, utilizing non use of force tactics and strategies wherever possible. This restriction will be reassessed in the event the situation is protracted.

Overall Aim

Maintain CORE policing function

Ensure primacy of operations

Ensure public safety is continually met

Objectives

Protect life & property

Minimise crime and disorder & provide proportionate policing response

Minimise disruption to Community and Businesses

Maintain confidence in policing

Maintain community cohesion

Maintain business as usual internally

Outcomes

Preferred:

Commerce and public travel maintained with minimal impact to law enforcement and public safety

Acceptable:

Commerce and public travel are maintained, with minor impact due to disruption, some service delivery disruption, some crimes or small pockets of public disorder, confidence maintained, business as usual maintained

Non-Acceptable:

Unable to maintain Commerce and public travel, significant disruption to community norms, loss of life, significant disruption, significant crimes, significant public disorder, loss of confidence in policing, business as usual significantly affected

Policing Style:

Firm but Fair Approach with an "enforcement" approach. Within a legal framework the police response will be measured and proportionate, based on the nature of the event, disruption or disorder.

Tactical Parameters:

Mode of dress: Service Order #1, High Visibility Vest/Jackets, Full use of force options

To also incorporate the use of PPE during operations

Command Protocols:

Command structure in place

Gold - Set overall aim and strategy (see above)

Silver - Liaise with providing clarity and de-conflicting information

Bronze - Execute plan(s) devised by Silver Command.

Briefing/Debriefing:

Silver Command responsibility, however Bronze provides briefings from their respective responsibilities

Stakeholders:

Government of Alberta – Justice and Solicitor General

Alberta Health Services

RCMP

Community Peace Officer

Media

Alberta Transportation

Public Safety Canada

Government of Canada

RCMP National Headquarters

Health Canada

Canadian Border Services Agency

Silver Commanders Tactics

1) Section 2(4) of the Critical Infrastructure Defence Act (CIDA) provides that no person shall aid, counsel or direct another person to commit an offense under that Act. A violation would include rendering a highway "dangerous, useless, inoperative or ineffective". This provision could allow you to charge and arrest the originizer, regardless of their participation during the event. Prior to engaging this sections consultation will be needed with Alberta Justice prosecutors on the enforcement of this charge.
2) Section 2(3) of the Critical Infrastructure Defence Act states:

   (3) No person shall, without lawful right, justification or excuse, wilfully obstruct, interrupt or interfere with the construction, maintenance, use or operation of any essential infrastructure in a manner that renders the essential infrastructure dangerous, useless, inoperative or ineffective.

Removal of Vehicles

3) the CIDA (or the Criminal Code) would not have any provision to help us with the vehicle removal

4) Any charge needs to be accompanied with a charge under the TSA or Reg. This allows you to seize any vehicle under section 77 of the Traffic Safety Act. This would be where the vehicle is left unattended 77(1)(b) parked on the highway in contravention of the Act or bylaw 77(1)(c) among others
5) The Traffic Safety Act and the Use of the Highway and Rules of Road Regulations authorities allow for the direction of a police officer (s 58 Regs).
6) Section 430(1)(c) of the Criminal Code states; Every one commits mischief who wilfully - **(c)** obstructs, interrupts or interferes with the lawful use, enjoyment or operation of property;

7) All arrest and removal of a vehicle will require a ticket under the Rules of the Road Reg, to seize/ remove the vehicle.

8) Interactions with public its not about covid or protests or even border trade. Its about traffic safety – use of the highway – keeping it open and allowing for unimpeded access to all users of Alberta's critical infrastructure.